AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1202 — WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1934 — FRANK MORRISON, Secretary — VOL. 24, NO. 17

Small thieves lie in towers fastened to wooden blocks; big ones strut around in gold and silver.—Cato, the Censor.

Huge Calculating Machine Will Make Thousands of Mathematicians Jobless

Solves in 15 Minutes a Problem Upon Which Five Government Experts Worked for Four Months to Find the Solution.

Philadelphia, Pa.—Intricate parts of what will be the world's largest calculating machine, capable of solving problems far beyond the mathematical capacity of any human being, were on exhibition at the Moore School of Electrical Engineering of the University of Pennsylvania. One hundred CWA workers, under the direction of I. A. Travis of the Moore School teaching staff, will soon begin the task of assembling the 75,000 parts on a steel foundation.

Weighing three tons, the differential analyzer, as the machine is technically known because of its ability to solve differential equations, will have 2½ times the "mental" capacity of the first instrument of its kind, which was designed about three years ago by Dr. Vannevar Bush of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The machine will be 30 feet long, 10 feet wide and 7 feet high.

Professor Charles DeV. Fawcett, Professor of Electrical Engineering, said the instrument "not only will solve various related mathematical equations but will 'memorize' the results, solve other variables in the equations and then reach back in its memory and give accurate answers, all tabulated and permanently recorded on paper."

It will do this through ingenious applications of simple physical and geometrical laws which are coordinated by means of gears, wheels and mechanical amplifying mechanisms.

Professor Fawcett declared that the analyzer could solve in less than 15 minutes a certain mathematical problem upon which five expert mathematicians employed by the United States Army worked for four months before finding the solution.

Ice Manufacturers Compelled to Stop Racketeering; Price Boosting Charged

New York.—As a result of the efforts of the Markets Department, a system in the ice industry of the city closely approaching a racket, which has kept prices of ice needlessly high for years, has broken up, Assistant Fellowes Morgan, Jr., Commissioner of Markets announced.

Investigation showed, Mr. Morgan said, that ice manufacturers were refusing to sell direct to the more than 15,000 neighborhood retail ice dealers of the city, even for cash, but were forcing these dealers to buy from middlemen, or at least selling only to middlemen and leaving the retailers no option.

Mr. Morgan said this practice was contrary to the rules of the department, in force from time to time, that a free market in ice. Learning of the violation of the rules, unenforced by previous administrations, he called in all ice manufacturers of the city and warned them that if they did not agree to sell direct to retailers for cash he would revoke their license. The Markets Department has jurisdiction over the ice business.

Michael Bianchetti, Deputy Commissioner, said that the ice racket had been in existence for years. As far back as 1916, he said, it was the practice of the middlemen to steal retailers' horses and hold them for ransom.

NEW NRA WAGE SCALE FOR SOUTHERN MINERS

Alabama Operators Will Pay $3.80 Instead of $4.60—Old Rate Was $3.40—7-Hour Day Stands

Washington.—The new agreement by which General Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator, ended the week's struggle over wage rates in the bituminous mines of the South was the result of concessions by both operators and miners.

In his order of April 9, General Johnson applied the Appalachian wage rate to the whole of the industry. This set up a $5 basic wage in the North and $4.60 in the South. Alabama operators fought this rate tooth and nail and secured an injunction preventing the Government from making it effective in their region.

The new amendment imposed on the objecting operators a daily scale of $3.80, as compared with $4.60 previously imposed, but which is still above the $3.40 figure under the code as first approved.

Seven-Hour Day Stands

The new amendment does not modify the seven-hour day provision of the amendments of April 9, and this will become universal in the entire bituminous industry.

While the minimum daily wage in the Alabama fields is fixed at $3.80, the order contains a clause forbidding the operators a daily scale of $3.80, as compared with $4.60 previously imposed, but which is still above the $3.40 figure under the code as first approved.

Seven-Hour Day Stands

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While the minimum daily wage in the Alabama fields is fixed at $3.80, the order contains a clause forbidding sale of coal by operators whose mines are working at this scale in competition with that of mines under the higher wage basis.

Furthermore, the order provides for a price study of the coal industry.

Rates in Other Areas

As for other areas, in the Southwestern District, including Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Kansas, the minimum rate will be $4.35 a day, an increase of 60 cents over the minimum fixed in the code and a reduction of 25 cents a day from that ordered in the amendments.

In the J-1 District of Tennessee, including Marion, Grundy, Sequatchie, White, Van Buren, Warren and Bledsoe Counties, the new rate will be $4.24 a day, compared with the $3.84 of the code rate and $4.44 set in the amendment.

The rate of $4.60 a day fixed by the amendment for the West Kentucky District, which is 60 cents a day over the original code figure, remains unchanged under the new agreement, as does the same rate for the Southern Appalachian District.

In the Fairmont District of West Virginia, where the dispute centered on allowances for loading and cutting, the new schedules provide for an advance of 2½ cents a ton for loading and 1¼ cents a ton for cutting and the $5 a day rate established by the amendment.

HARRIMAN HOSIERY CO. LOSES THE BLUE EAGLE

General Johnson Says Concern Violated Labor Section of Recovery Act by Infringing Rights of Its Workers to Bargain Collectively Through Representatives of Their Own Choosing.

Washington.—Gen. Hugh S. Johnson, Recovery Administrator, ordered the Blue Eagle taken from the Harriman Hosiery Company, Harriman, Tenn., for alleged violation of Section 7-A of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

In a telegram to the company announcing his decision, General Johnson said:

"The National Labor Board has made a recommendation that your Blue Eagle be withdrawn based upon the board's findings and its conclusion that the Harriman Hosiery Mills has infringed the rights of its employes to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing, as recognized in Section 7-A of the National Industrial Recovery Act, by entering negotiations in bad faith with the definite intention not to make any agreement with the representatives of its employes.'

"The Compliance Board has concurred in this recommendation.

"In accordance with these recommendations, I hereby direct you to remove all your Blue Eagles to the postmaster at Harriman and to refrain hereafter from using the Blue Eagle at your plant or in advertising or in any other manner."

Following is the statement given out by General Johnson explaining the order:

"Findings of fact by the National Labor Board, following four months effort by it and the Atlanta Regional Labor Board to settle a strike in the company's mill were transmitted to the Administrator on March 13. Following reference of the case to National Compliance Director W. H. Davis, another attempt, in which the National Labor Board cooperated, to effect a settlement was undertaken.

"An agreement was drawn up, which the company's representatives submitted to the strikers. Parleys between the company's spokesmen and the strikers at Harriman resulted in rejection of the agreement by the latter because no specific guarantee of how and when the strikers were to be reinstated was included.

"Thereafter, following new conferences and efforts to obtain a settlement, the company formally protested to the Administrator against the removal of its Eagle as recommended by the National Labor Board and the petition was referred to National Compliance Director Davis, whose report concurring in the National Labor Board's final recommendation was the basis of the Administrator's action today."

COTTON GODE BODY ENDS MANY LABOR DISPUTES

NRA Report Claims Strikes in Textile Industry Are Few and Short and Complaints of Code Violation Promptly Adjusted.

Washington.—During the eight months of its life the Cotton Textile National Industrial Relations Board has transmitted to the files of from one torn asunder by labor disputes to a harmonious group, according to a report by the National Recovery Administration reviewing the board's work.

The report points out that the board has settled 800 complaints of code violation with only two or three exceptions to "perfect cooperation between the employer and an investigator"; only one complaint has to be carried up to the National Compliance Board of the NRA, and 3,300 cases of misunderstanding have been corrected.

The board was the first created under a code. It began operation August 2 after the signing of the Cotton Textile code. The 1,400 mills operations embrace 1,500 mills with 450,000 to 500,000 employes in an industry described as "formerly beset with labor discontent and industrial difficulties."

"Furthermore, during the eight months' functioning of the Cotton Textile National Industrial Relations Board only about six labor disputes in the industry reached the public hearing stage, and even these strikes lasted not more than a few days each," said the report. "Other labor troubles under the board were adjusted without strike action at all or, if a strike stage was reached, it was of minor nature. This contrasts with frequent and numerous strikes or threatened strikes during the year preceding the code.

"The constant effort of the board has been to stop trouble before it can start—to adjust differences right in the mills themselves, before a stage of formal complaint is ever reached. In this way thousands of potential grievances have been settled by local mill committees of employes and employers, averting during the necessity for action by State or national boards."

The board is composed of Robert W. Bruere, chairman, formerly associate editor of Survey; B. E. Geer, president of Furman University, Greenville, S. C., representing industry, and Major George L. Berry, president of the Pressmen's Union and also chairman of the labor arbitrator, representing labor. L. R. Gilbert, for years a cotton mill operator, is secretary.

Employers Wantonly Violate Labor Section of National Recovery Act

Vice Chairman of New York Regional Labor Board Says Unions Should Be the Agency to Enforce Code Rules Affecting the Workers.

An unusually severe indictment of subversive employers who contrive to evade the plain provisions of the labor section of the National Recovery Act was made by Mrs. Elinore Morehouse-Herrick, vice chairman of the New York Regional Labor Board, in a statement before the national conference of Trade Association Executives in Washington.

Wage chiseling of many kinds, making helpers do work requiring experience, taking time clock hours, and speeding up schemes were among the employers' methods of sabotage cited by Mrs. Herrick. She gave the following description of these unpatriotic activities:

Wage Chiselers at Work

"It does not cost very much to buy a second-hand printing press and start up a little business printing handbills, or pads, letterheads and that sort of thing. A number of small shops—employing less than 100 workers—have been brought in before the Regional Labor Board because strikes by the workers against employer evasion of codes—Typographical Union No. 6 and the Newspaper Guild—have been the complainantz.

"These employers have been working overtime without paying time and one-third for overtime. I have discovered that as soon as they have completed the six-week learner's period; they have paid no one more than the minimum rate in either the PRA or the proposed industry code. They have put 'helpers' on present in place of experienced and competent pressmen. Through the organization of these workers the above unions have effectively eliminated these chiseling practices. Back pay for the overtime—in one case amounting to $1,200—has been paid to the workers.

Union Workers Discharged

"In the garment trades we have found employers who for years have had union contracts, discharging their workers, closing shop for a week and reorganizing under the same name with an 'INC' added. They then offer to take their workers back if workers to share the profits—so-called—but in reality to evade payment of union wages. The demoralization of the industry well can be imagined. The workers must submit or starve, or the union and society as a whole. I am sure the legitimate employers will agree—that it is in the interest of the industry and society as a whole that the unions should fight to drive out of business any employers who can exist only by such mean subterfuges.

Learners' Wages Evaded

"As for the complaints of learner's rates—they are legion. Just the other day we discovered through a strike that one has to learn to be a broom—to sweep the floor and empty the trash baskets. It required six porters to keep one small office clean, in which there were 50 employes, of whom 27 were already receiving the minimum wage—and the highest rate paid was only 10 per cent above the minimum. The settlement of the strike was a union contract and union rates of pay.

Time Clock Hours Fake

"Faking time clock hours, by working an hour before clocking in, requiring employes to sign the payroll for code wages, but actually paying them $5 or $10 less is a common practice and has led to many a strike. The speed-up system whereby the number of pieces required to be turned out at each job is a figure that even a skilled worker who has been 15 years with the same employer is able to make only the minimum guarantee. These are all too familiar devices whereby certain employers subdue the workers to their will."

Mrs. Herrick declared that in her judgment the only effective way to enforce the labor sections of the codes, which include Section 7-A of the Recovery Act, is to make organized labor an official enforcing agency of all code provisions affecting working men and women.

A. F. OF L. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETS ON MAY 2

Washington.—The Spring meeting of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor will be held at the A. F. of L. headquarters here, opening on May 2.

The Council will have under consideration the entire economic and legislative program of the American Federation of Labor and will devote considerable attention to the rights of working men and women under the codes of fair competition established by authority of the National Industrial Recovery Act and especially to the labor section of the law which the Wagner Labor Disputes bill is intended to strengthen and make more effective.

The Executive Council consists of the following:

President, William Green (Miner).

Secretary, Frank Morrison (Printer).

Treasurer, Martin F. Ryan (Carman).

First Vice-President, Frank Duffy (Carpenter).

Second Vice-President, T. A. Rickert (Garment Worker).

Third Vice-President, Matthew Woll (Photo-Engraver).

Fourth Vice-President, James Wilson (Pattern Maker).

Fifth Vice-President, John Coefield (Plumber).

Sixth Vice-President, Arthur O. Wharton (Machinist).

Seventh Vice-President, Joseph N. Weber (Musician).

Eighth Vice-President, G. M. Bugniazet (Electrical Worker).

HEALTH INSURANCE URGED BY DR. DAVIS

Rosenwald Fund Specialist Says Many People Go Without Proper Medical Care Because of Its High Cost.

New York.—The growing necessity of health insurance as necessary to secure proper medical care for all except the wealthy was stressed by Dr. Michael M. Davis, director of the health insurance research for the Julius Rosenwald Fund, at the conference here of the American Association for Social Security. He urged the conference to concentrate on this problem, "as it affects practically the whole population, with the exception of the group at the top."

Pointing out that "we are passing now from the stage of experimentation to one of action," in social welfare, Dr. Davis predicted that "it will make possible within the next three years the cooperation of the best brains in the medical profession with groups of leading economists." Such a condition, he added, "never existed before in the history of life insurance."

Dr. Davis said that despite the opposition of the American Medical Association to many of the proposals along this line, county and State medical societies "are now actively engaged in doing something about the problem."

Concerning the actual costs of this type of insurance, Dr. Davis pointed out that the outlays of medical care "which wage earners and other people of small means have to pay, amounted to about $2,000,000,000 a year during the last prosperous period and are as a whole about twice as large as the wage losses from sickness because of sickness." He added that "under present methods of payment, even in prosperous times, a large number of people go without needed medical care."

L. D. BLAND, LABOR OFFICIAL, DIES AT 63

Chicago, Ill.—L. D. Bland, international treasurer of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes of America, and editor of the Union Leader, the official weekly organ of the Association, died here at the age of 63. He was at work at his desk when he was stricken with a heart attack, and passed away a few hours later.

Mr. Bland was born in Hamilton, Ont., June 11, 1871, and learned his trade as printer on the old Hamilton Daily Herald. From Hamilton he moved to New Mexico, following his trade until 1893, when he came to Chicago. Unable to find work at his trade, he secured employment on the street cars here.

In 1902, when the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railways was organized, he became the secretary and business agent of Division 260. Three years later the Union Leader was purchased by the Association as the official organ for the Amalgamated members in Chicago. Mr. Bland was appointed editor, a position which he held until his death. He was elected international treasurer of the association 15 years ago, which position he also held until he passed away.

Mr. Bland was well known throughout the labor movement of the United States and Canada. He is survived by his widow and two sisters.

Match and Chemical Workers Win Strikes in Barberton

Barberton, Ohio.—The Match Makers' Local Union No. 18928 won a complete victory in their strike against the Diamond Match Company here. Complete recognition of the union and elimination of the Bedaux system were won.

Coupled with the match makers' victory, Chemical Workers' Local Union No. 19019 won their strike for better work conditions.

Both unions are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

NRA SCALE IS ACCEPTED BY ALABAMA OPERATORS

Birmingham, Ala.—The $2.85-a-day basic wage and the 35-hour week proclaimed by the NRA for Alabama soft coal fields was accepted by the operators of this region who set about the task of working out the details of returning approximately 21,000 miners to their jobs.

The Tennessee-Georgia Coal Producers' Association also announced at Chattanooga, Tenn., the acceptance of the amended wage and hour scale and said an attempt would be made to return 1,000 miners to work by "the end of this week."

"We are distinctly not sat'sfied," said Colonel H. J. Weaks, president of the Tennessee-Georgia group. "We will go ahead and do the best we can with it."

The new scale in the South Tennessee and Georgia fields is a $4.24 per-day basic scale, an increase of 40 cents a day over the rate prescribed under the amendment to the bituminous coal code. The amendment became effective March 26.

In Chattanooga and here new contracts had to be worked out with the United Mine Workers of America.

The formal resolution adopted by the Alabama operators indicated that they were not fully satisfied with the amended order.

KENTUCKY OPERATORS FIGHT NRA WAGE SCALE

Louisville, Ky.—The NRA wage scale of $4.60 for a seven-hour day in the Western Kentucky coal fields will be combatted in the Federal courts, J. Van Norman, attorney for the West Kentucky Coal Operators' Association, announced after a meeting of 60 mine owners.

The operators, Mr. Norman said, contended the scale would be "ruinous."

He said the suit would contend that the scale is arbitrary and confiscatory and would question the constitutionality of Government regulation of wages and hours.

20,000 WEST VIRGINIA MINERS RETURN TO WORK

Fairmont, W. Va.—Settlement of the Northern West Virginia coal wage dispute sent about 75 per cent of the 20,000 miners back to work.

The mines had been idle since April 1, when an amendment was made to the bituminous coal code eliminating the 24-cent wage differential the district held over the Western Pennsylvania area.

General Johnson, Recovery Administrator, denied the operators' appeal and ordered a minimum basic wage of $4 a day put into effect. It is charged, however, that rates for loading and cutting still give the district a slight advantage over the rates in the Pittsburgh area.

35-HOUR WEEK SOUGHT BY MILLINERY WORKERS

Change Will Provide Jobs for 15,000, Union Officials Say

Atlantic City, N. J.—According to officials of the Millinery Workers' International Union, here for a three-day conference, the National Millinery Code Authority, of which the union is a member, is prepared to ask the National Recovery Administration to establish a five-day, 35-hour week for the millinery industry. The present schedule is 37½ hours a week.

Union officials said the shorter work week will re-employ 15,000 to 20,000 more of their skilled workers, bringing the total employed to about 60,000.

In the past three years skilled millinery workers have had an average of 16 weeks of work a year, according to Max Zaritsky, president, and Alex Rose, secretary-treasurer, of the union.

"We now expect from 32 to 34 weeks," they said, "and hope to reach as high as 40."

The new NRA labels with manufacturer's serial code number will be placed in all millinery made under the code.

The present code expires May 15.

3,000 Glove Workers Win Strike for Pay Increase

Gloversville, N. Y.—Termination of the strike of glove workers was assured when representatives of the employes and manufacturers agreed on a new schedule of wages and working conditions. Increases in pay were granted.

Spokesmen of the seven crafts in the industry approved a settlement.

The walkout paralyzed the industry here and at Johnstown, where 90 per cent of the American glove-making business is located.

Details of the settlement were not made public. It was, however, highly involved. A great many of the glove makers are piece workers, some of them women who do the work at home.

British Labor Wins Seat From Conservative Party

London, Eng.—Continuing its successful invasion of Conservative party strongholds, the Labor party won back the Parliamentary seat of North Hammersmith in a by-election fought mainly on budget issues. F. R. West, formerly Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Labor Postmaster General, rolled up a majority of 2,516 over the Conservative candidate.

Thousands of the constituents are postal employes who are dissatisfied because only half their pay cuts have been restored.

N. Y. GARMENT LOCKOUT ENDED BY GEN. JOHNSON

Jobbers Were Accused of Violating NRA Code by Forcing "Kick-back" on Cutters

New York.—More than 50,000 workers in 2,200 shops of the dress industry returned to work as a result of a settlement of the controversy between the jobbers and contractors which has caused a week's "stoppage" of the industry.

The settlement was announced by H. H. Gitchell, chairman of the Dress Code Authority, who had been conducting negotiations between the opposing groups, with the aid of Sol A. Rosenblatt, Divisional Administrator of NRA.

Mr. Gitchell announced that the settlement had been reached on the basis of a telegram received from General Hugh Johnson, NRA chief, promising the appointment of a commission to hold hearings and iron out differences between the groups, and urging the contractors to resume operations and put their men back to work.

The stoppage was ordered by the United Association of Dress Manufacturers, Inc., the contractors' organization, as a protest against alleged "chiseling" by the National Dress Manufacturers' Association, the jobbers' organization.

The chief charges of the contractors were that they were compelled by the jobbers to submit to a "kick-back" procedure, under which they paid for them for execution of contracts, in accord with the scale prescribed in the code, had to be returned in part to the jobbers as a condition of obtaining additional work and that the jobbers failed to meet the provision regarding compensation for overhead, under which the jobbers had to reimburse contractors to the extent of $5 per cent for all labor costs.

BOOK MARGIN COMMENT GETS GERMAN SOCIALIST 3-YEAR JAIL SENTENCE

Brunswick, Germany.—A penciled marginal note in a book borrowed from a prison library will cost Otto Thielemann three years in jail.

Editor of the suppressed Socialist newspaper Volkstreund, Thielemann has been in custody since 1933. He found in a volume this reference to the 1918 revolution:

"Never was a nation lied to like the German race."

He wrote on the margin, "Very true, the same in 1933."

He pleaded that he meant no insinuation against the Nazis; but the Rightist press had done the lying. The court refused to accept the explanation, and passed sentence on him.

CHICAGO TEACHERS PROTEST DELAY IN SALARY PAYMENTS

Chicago, Ill.—More than 5,000 teachers, parents and students paraded through the Loop in protest against delay in the enactment of legislation which would relieve the financial plight of the teachers.

The marchers carried placards, some of which bore the legends: "Chicago, a fair for the world, unfair to teachers," and "NRA—no relief allowed."

The paraders seemed in a happy frame of mind. As they marched in the financial district a barrage of ticker tape and confetti descended upon them.

John Fewkes, the teachers' leader, addressed the paraders at the Plaza on Michigan Avenue. He complained that the salaries of the teachers are nearly eight months in arrears and demanded that the banks forthwith lend the Board of Education enough money to give them their back pay.

UNION RECOGNITION WON BY CLEVELAND TEACHERS

Cleveland, Ohio. — The Cleveland School Board by a unanimous vote recognized Local 279, American Federation of Teachers, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, as the legally accredited organization to represent its members before the board.

In a statement of principles presented to the board the union said:

"The present salary schedule adopted in 1930 has worked well and has been unusually satisfactory and should be maintained."

This cooperative note was carried even further in another section of the statement, which asserted that the union agreed with some members of the school board that teachers should receive the same treatment as bondholders. This proposition as enunciated out that about a million dollars had been diverted from the city's operating fund for debt service.

The statement ended with a plea for Federal aid for education.

"The failure of banks and railroads can only be described as a catastrophe," the clause said. "There are no words to depict the hopelessness of our people were the schools to collapse."

N. Y. ASSEMBLY DEFEATS UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Albany, N. Y.—Two unemployment insurance bills went down to defeat in the Assembly when motions to bring them out of Rules Committee were lost by a vote of 76 to 68. Seventy-six votes were needed to bring the bills out of committee for passage. One of the bills was sponsored by Senator Byrne, of Albany, had previously been passed by the Senate. It was backed by the State Federation of Labor and was fathered in the lower house by Assemblyman W. F. Condon, of Westchester.

The other bill defeated was sponsored by Assemblyman Steingut. In the upper house it was introduced by Senator Mastick, of Westchester, but has not been passed by the Senate.

COMPANY UNION BANNED BY NRA, CONNERY SAYS

Cites Debates to Prove That Such Was the Intent of Congress

Washington.—By Section 7-A of the National Industrial Recovery Act Congress intended to have company unions definitely outlawed," Representative William J. Connery of Massachusetts, chairman of the House Labor Committee, and author of the labor section, declared at the hearing held by the National Recovery Administration on proposed codes for competition for the telephone industry.

Citing the text of Section 7-A "that no employer and no one acting for management shall be required as a condition of employment to join any company union," Mr. Connery emphatically held that any form of company union which is allowed to remain in existence "is against the intent and law of the Congress of the United States." He quoted from the debates in Congress when it was considering the Recovery Act to sustain his point.

7 Months' Strike Wins Wage Boost for Radiator Workers

Bayonne, N. J.—The seven month's strike of employes of the American Radiator Company ended when the workers agreed to a compromise. They voted, 413 to 18, to accept the company's offer of a 10 per cent wage increase and the promise of a 40-hour week.

When 1,100 workers walked out of the plant on October 6 they demanded a 25 per cent wage increase. They were receiving 42 cents an hour, but declared they would settle for 50 cents a week. The company announced it would re-employ one shift of men April 30, giving employment to about 600. The others, strike leaders said, have found employment elsewhere.

Wage Increase Prevents Grain Shovelers Strike

Buffalo, N. Y.—Acceptance of a compromise increase by members of the grain shovelers here averted immediate possibility of a waterfront strike. They accepted a 5½ per cent rise over the scale adopted at the close of navigation last Summer.

BODIES OF GERMAN UNION LEADERS FOUND IN FOREST

Berlin, Germany.—A grim reminder of last year's events when the assassins of Hitler's Government abolished the German trade union movement is the discovery in a forest near Dinslaken, in the Rhineland, of the bodies of four union leaders shot by the Nazis.

On May 2, 1933, trade union offices throughout Germany were raided by the Nazis. Union leaders were arrested, newspapers were seized and the union bank was put under a commissioner.

The bodies of the Ruhr murder commission identified the bodies. The official statement adds laconically that it has not been possible to ascertain how the men met their end. It concludes with a warning against "disquieting the public by superfluous conjecture and sensational talk."

RED AGITATORS BANNED

Birmingham, Ala.—Communist activities among the miners was dissolved here when officials of the United Mine Workers' local union prevented the distribution of allegedly inflammatory literature by two Reds. The literature included advertisements of a May Day demonstration in Birmingham.

Ralph W. Howell, president of the miners' local, said:

"We want it understood that there is no room for the Communist or any of his ilk in our community. We want to cooperate to the fullest with authorized representatives of the NRA, but will not be responsible for strife-breeding strangers who seek to inflame the minds of our people."

BENJAMIN SCHWEITZER DIES

Was Charter Member of United Garment Workers

New York.—Benjamin Schweitzer, a charter member of the United Garment Workers of America and for many years a member of the general executive board of that organization, died at his home here.

He took an active part in the struggles of the employes in the men's clothing industry for improved work and living conditions, and was widely known among garment workers for his unselfish devotion to their cause.

PAY CUT BRINGS STRIKE OF GOVERNMENT WORKERS

Paris, France.—Throughout France thousands of civil servants struck for periods ranging up to an hour in protest against government decrees cutting salaries and pensions. However, many other thousands refused to obey the strike order and virtually every government service except telegraph and telephone was functioning normally all day.

The chief center of protest as always was the central telegraph office, while telegraphers in other parts of the postal, telephone and telegraph workers who did the most demonstrating.

The gas, electrical and transport services functioned without interruption all day. Employes of financial services, water supply and the tobacco monopoly also indulged in short strikes with all work suspended. Reports from dozens of provincial towns indicate that went there as they did in Paris. There was a total lack of violence everywhere.

Increased Loom Load Brings Strike of Southern Weavers

Spartansburg, S. C.—Pending the settlement of a strike of weavers, the mill of the Highland Park Manufacturing Co. at Rock Hill, which employs 300 workers, is shut down.

The strike was brought about by a number of weavers and loom fixers who complained against a change in the type of cloth manufactured which, they claim, brought about an increased loom load. While operations other than weaving were not affected by the initial walkout, the remainder of the mill was forced to shut down while negotiations for settlement are pending.